

Congresswoman Kaptur worked to form the bipartisan Jobs Now! Caucus with colleagues, Congressman Bobby Rush (D-Illinois) and Congresswoman Candice Miller (R-Michigan). Their charter membership is made up of more than 125 representatives from both sides of the aisle. Congresswoman Kaptur serves as a co-chair of the Caucus.

"The purpose of the Jobs Now! Caucus is to take a stand for putting our families, our communities and our nation back to work," Congresswoman Kaptur said.

"This caucus will advocate for policy initiatives that stimulate and maintain a strong economy based on sustainable development. It will seek to achieve one common goal across the political spectrum: creating jobs again in America.

"By mobilizing the broad membership of Congress, district by district, on a bipartisan basis, our

goal is to understand the conditions affecting each district and solicit the best ideas for job creation from Members 'from the bottom up,' rather than rely on top-down solutions so typical of Washington-centered policies of the past."

The first order of business for the Jobs Now! Caucus, said Congresswoman Kaptur, will be the introduction of a resolution to express the sense of the House of Representatives that the United States faces a nationwide job crisis that requires a robust policy response.

"We know this: the American people want to work," said Congresswoman Kaptur.

"A good job is the key to staying in your home, building your community, and keeping our nation strong. We also know that economic recovery means job creation, not just a rising stock market. Double-digit joblessness continues to plague not just the Great Lakes states, but all geographic parts of the country.

"Our region's communities, for example, have served as production platforms as America built a solid middle class. Our region does not simply trade wealth, as do Wall Street and other mega-banking centers. We make wealth. And we don't accept the fact that Wall Street megabanks are making so much money that they're able to set aside enough to pay each worker in their investment banking divisions outrageous bonuses that are ten times more than the median annual income of middle-class families."